(b) Government of India has released two instalments of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund amounting to Rs. 14.81 crores during 1995-96 to the State Government.

Furnishings at Residences and Offices of Ministers

757. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the furniture and other items provided at Government expense, at the offices and residences of the Ministers, are returned to CPWD on their relinquishing offices as Ministers;

(b) if so, the details of the prescribed rules and procedures in this regard; and

(c) how far these rules have been followed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFARIS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) The furniture and other items for offices are supplied by the respective Ministeries. For residences, furniture and electrical appliances are supplied by the CPWD, which are generally returned by the Ministers within one month of their relinquishing the office.

(b) and (c) The supply of furniture and electrical appliances to a Minister and recovery of rent therefore is governed by the provisions of Ministers Residence Rules, 1962.

Solution to Indo-Bangladesh River Water sharing dispute

758. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government to revive the Water Panel by calling a meeting of the Joint Rivers Commission, formed by India and Bangladesh which did not meet in the past Five years to resolve the issue of sharing water of common rivers; and

(b) if so, when the decision is likely to be implemented by the two Governments, to arrive at a permanent solutions to the problem of water sharing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) and (b) the Union Government has decided to revive the talks with the Government of Bangladesh on water sharing by calling for a meeting of the Joint Rivers commission in Delhi very soon. Discussions for solution to the problem of water sharing and other related isues are scheduled to be held during this meeting.

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12 NOON

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

The Deputy Chairman in the chair

Notifications of Ministry of Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture and Cooperation) together with Corrigendum.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): Madam, I lay on the Table—

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of